IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3 and 5-16 are pending in this application. Please cancel claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the remaining claims, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An information recording method for recording information on an information recording media by means of light or magnetism, comprising the steps of:

converting an encoded data into m pieces of parallel data bits;

inputting m pieces of data bits as an input signal to a multiplexing circuit to which m pieces of data bits are input and which outputs n pieces of data bits (hereinafter referred to as an m:n multiplexer), where $m > n \geq 2$;

~~outputting n pieces of data bits which are at higher speed than said input signal from said m:n multiplexer~~

synchronizing the n pieces of output data bits by obtaining a clock used for multiplexing the m pieces of input data bits into the n pieces of output data bits from a single generating source, and outputting n pieces of data bits from the m:n multiplexer at a speed greater than that of the input signal; and

recording information with the n pieces of data bits.

2. (Original) The information recording method according to claim 1, wherein a multipulse signal is formed of said n pieces of data bits.

3. (Original) The information recording method according to claim 1, wherein multilevel recording is performed by using said n pieces of data bits.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Original) The information recording method according to claim 4, wherein the n pieces of output data from said m:n multiplexer are at a speed multiplied by n times as fast as the input data speed and a speed can be selected arbitrarily for each of the n pieces of data.

6. (Currently Amended) An information recording equipment comprising:

an encoding circuit which encodes data to be recorded;

a recording pulse shaping circuit to which output of said encoding circuit is input and which outputs m pieces of pulse signals as parallel signals;

an m:n multiplexer which multiplexes the m pieces of pulse signals output from said recording pulse shaping circuit and outputs n pieces of pulse signals, where $m > n \geq 2$;

a laser driver circuit which is driven by the n pieces of output signals from said m:n multiplexer; and

a laser beam source which is driven by output of said laser driver circuit, wherein

the m:n multiplexer synchronizes the n nieces of output data bits by obtaining a clock used for multiplexing the m pieces of input data bits into the n pieces of output data bits from a single generating source.

7. (Original) The information recording equipment according to claim 6, wherein said laser driver circuit outputs a multipulse signal in conformity with a write strategy.

8. (Original) The information recording equipment according to claim 6, wherein said m:n multiplexer includes a clock dividing circuit and said recording pulse shaping circuit uses a clock generated from said clock dividing circuit as a synchronous signal.

9. (Original) The information recording equipment according to claim 6, wherein said m:n multiplexer includes a clock multiplying circuit and uses a clock which is obtained by multiplying a clock output from said recording pulse shaping circuit by a factor of n through said clock multiplying circuit as a synchronous signal for signal multiplexing.

10. (Original) The information recording equipment according to claim 6, wherein said m:n multiplexer includes amplitude adjustment circuits which are able to vary the amplitudes of the n pieces of output signals from said m:n multiplexer.

11. (Original) The information recording equipment according to claim 6, wherein said m:n multiplexer includes delay adjustment circuits which are able to vary the delay amounts of the n pieces of output signals from said m:n multiplexer.

12. (Original) The information recording equipment according to claim 6, further comprising:

a plurality of level converters which adjust the levels of the n pieces of output signals from said m:n multiplexer; and

a mixer circuit which combines output signals from said plurality of level converters into a multilevel signal.

13. (Original) The information recording equipment according to claim 6, further comprising:

a recording magnetic field polarity reversal circuit which causes a magnetic field to be reversed in synchronization with a light pulse emitted from said laser beam source.

a laser beam source which is driven by output of said laser driver circuit; and

a control circuit unit which controls operation, using said test data.

14. (Currently Amended) An evaluation equipment comprising:

an encoding circuit which encodes test data;

a recording pulse shaping circuit to which output of said encoding circuit is input and which outputs m pieces of pulse signals as parallel signals;

an m:n multiplexer which multiplexes the m pieces of pulse signals output from said recording pulse shaping circuit and outputs n pieces of pulse signals, where $m > n \geq 2$;

a laser driver circuit which is driven by the n pieces of output signals from said m:n multiplexer;

a laser beam source which is driven by output of said laser driver circuit; and

a control circuit unit which controls operation, using said test data, wherein

the m:n multiplexer synchronizes the n pieces of pulse signals by obtaining a clock for multiplexing the m pieces of pulse signals into the n pieces of pulse signals from a single generating source.

15. (Original) The evaluation equipment according to claim 14, wherein said control circuit unit comprises a recording/reading power control board, a servo board, a spindle control board, a track jump control board, an address decode board, and PLL (phase locked loop)/equalizer control board.

16. (Original) The evaluation equipment according to claim 14, further comprising a control system which controls said control circuit unit.